(b) the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The number of applications received in Andhra Pradesh under Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) during the last two years, *i.e.* 2004-05 and 2005-06 (upto November, 2005) is 49,613.

(c) Out of the 41,716 applications received in 2004-05, loans were sanctioned by the Banks in 24,758 cases and disbursed in 22,289 cases. During 2005-06 (upto November 2005), 7897 applications were received. Of these, loans were sanctioned in 5199 cases and disbursed in 2640 cases.

Schemes for the benefits of rural poor

1332. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes which are in existence for the benefit of rural poor;

(b) whether Government propose to launch any fresh schemes in order to encourage entrepreneurs to set up rural industries;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) by when these schemes will come into operation?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTERIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) The Government (in the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries) has been implementing a number of schemes throughout the country. Of these, the most important are the two credit-linked subsidy schemes, namely, the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) and the Prime Minister's Rojgar Yojana (PMRY), for generation of off-farm employment opportunities by assisting individual entrepreneurs, educated unemployed youths, self-help groups, etc., in setting up village industries, including related business/service enterprises. REGP is implemented in rural areas and small towns with population below 20,000 while PMRY is implemented in both rural and urban areas.

Through the Coir Board, the Government implements a number of schemes for development of the coir industry, in coconut growing States.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.